





# Human Trafficking

- Human Trafficking – is a crime that involves the act of recruiting, enticing, harboring, transporting, providing, obtaining, or maintaining a person through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of labor or commercial sexual exploitation.
- The two types of Human Trafficking are *Sex Trafficking* and *Labor Trafficking*
- *Human Trafficking is a form of Modern Day Slavery*



# Sex Trafficking and Forced Labor

- Forced Labor – The act of compelling a person to engage in labor or services through means of force, fraud, or coercion.
- Sex Trafficking (Adult Victims) – The act of compelling a person to engage in a commercial sex act through means of force, fraud, or coercion.
- Sex Trafficking of Minors – The act of compelling a person to engage in a commercial sex act, with knowledge the victim was under 18 years of age.
  - Statute permits the trafficker does not have to have been told the victim was a minor, but had a “reasonable opportunity to observe” the victim was underage.



# What HT Victims are Trafficked For

- Prostitution
- Domestic work
- Agriculture work
- Child care
- Construction work
- Landscaping
- Personal sexual exploitation
- Strip Clubs
- Restaurant work
- Hotel housekeeping
- Day labor
- Massage Parlors



# Traffickers Control Victims Through Fraud, Force, or Coercion...

- Force: Beating, rapes, starvation
- Isolation
- Psychological abuses
- Drug dependency
- Document withholding
- Threats against the victim's family
- Threats of deportation
- Restricted movement
- Debt bondage





# Child Victims of Sex Trafficking

- The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) estimates 100,000 – 300,000 children under the age of 18 become victims of prostitution every year in the US.
- Most victims are female.
- Some studies indicate the average age of entry into prostitution is as young as 12 years old.
- The average life expectancy of a child who enters prostitution before the age of 18 is only 7 years.
- These children are not prostitutes – they are child victims of prostitution.



# Recruitment and Grooming of Sex Trafficking Victims

- Lured into prostitution with promises of love, attention, gifts, money and the “belonging” they never received at home.
- “Kept in line” by threats, extreme physical violence, drug addiction and no alternatives.
- Child victims of prostitution are isolated and moved from one hotel to another; from city to city; and state to state.
- Phoenix is one of the hub cities in the southwest “circuit” which also includes:
  - San Diego
  - Los Angeles
  - Sacramento
  - Las Vegas
  - Albuquerque



# Risk Factors of Sex Trafficking Victims

- No little girl dreams about growing up to be a prostitute.
- Child victims of prostitution typically come from dysfunctional families where they have already been victims of child sexual abuse, physical abuse and neglect.
- Most child victims of prostitution are runaways or “throwaways” and often suffer from:
  - Sexual, physical and emotional abuse within their own family;
  - Drug and alcohol abuse within the family – either the victims themselves and/or their parents or primary care givers;
  - Low self esteem;
  - Warped sense of “right and wrong”;
  - No boundaries.
- As a result, these children are easy targets for exploitation.





# FBI Response to Human Trafficking

- 2003 – The FBI formed the Innocence Lost National Initiative to address criminal enterprises involved in domestic sex trafficking of children
- Operation Cross Country (OCC)
  - Coordinated surge of resources – run six times since 2003
  - FBI with state and local partners target venues such as street tracks, Internet ads, truck stops, motels and casinos where children are prostituted
  - Over 2,200 child victims recovered
  - Over 1,000 criminal convictions
- 2012 – The ILNI merged with the Innocent Images National Initiative (Child Pornography) under the umbrella of the Child Exploitation Task Force (CETF) to address all Crimes Against Children cases.
- Currently 47 of the FBI's 56 Field Offices have a CETF.
- Civil Rights Unit is working to establish national Human Trafficking Task Forces and has also created Anti-Trafficking Coordination Teams (ACT) in multiple Field Offices



# Mission of the Child Exploitation Task Force (CETF)

- Identify, locate and rescue child victims;
- Prosecute pimps and dismantle criminal enterprises;
- Strengthen the capabilities of the FBI, federal, state, local, tribal and international partners through training, intelligence sharing, technical support and investigative assistance.



# FBI Phoenix Human Trafficking Partnerships

- FBI Phoenix partners with:
  - Homeland Security Investigations
  - Phoenix Police Department Vice Unit
  - Scottsdale Police Department Special Victims Unit and Gang Crimes Unit
  - Department of Labor
  - Other LE agencies as needed
  - Child Protective Services (CPS)
  - Child Help (child forensic interviews and medical examinations)
  - Local Shelters including:
    - Streetlight USA (specifically for child victims of prostitution under the age of 18)
    - Moma's House (adult victims of commercial sex trafficking and domestic violence)
    - Dignity House (adult victims of commercial sex trafficking)
    - The Dream Center
  - Other social services as needed by the victim
  - Investigating Child Prostitution also requires offering the victims a better alternative than the only life they have come to know.